

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/851,467

Examiner

Le Nguyen

Applicant(s)

FUNG ET AL.

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview of 10/27/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 8, 11-26 and 31-38.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 10/27/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

*Kristine Kincaid*  
KRISTINE KINCAID  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is required to place this application in condition for allowance. During a telephone conversation conducted on 10/27/05, Ted Naccarella requested an extension of time for 2 MONTH(S) and authorized the Director to charge Deposit Account No. 19-5425 the required fee for this extension.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ted Naccarella on 10/27/05.
3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
4. The application has been further amended as follows:  
  
Claims 3 and 23 have been cancelled.  
  
Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate claim 3 as follows:
  1. A graphical user interface tool for use in connection with a computer program which can simultaneously display multiple files on a computer display device, each file appearing in a different panel on said display device, said tool comprising:  
means for allowing a user to invoke said tool in association with a selected one of said multiple files using a computer interface device; means for causing a graphic representation of said tool to appear on said display device responsive to being invoked by said user, said graphic representation comprising an icon having a plurality of

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segments, each corresponding to an operation that can be performed in connection with said selected file; means for allowing said user to select one of said plurality of operations using a user interface device: wherein said means for allowing said user to select one of said operations is responsive to said user positioning said cursor in a position indicative of a particular segment of said ~~graphic representation~~ icon to tentatively select said operation corresponding to said segment and performing a subsequent act to select said operation corresponding to said segment; means for causing a line to appear on said display device, when said ~~graphic representation~~ icon appears on said display device, said line having a first end point centered on said ~~graphic representation~~ icon and a second endpoint at said cursor; and means for causing said operation to be performed on said selected file.

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4. The tool of claim 3 1 wherein said icon is circular and said segments comprise arc portions of said circular icon.

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

5. The tool of claim 3 1 further comprising: means for causing said ~~graphic representation~~ icon to appear in said panel associated with said selected file.

Claim 14 has been amended as follows:

14. The tool of claim 3 1 wherein said icon further comprises a portion that indicates which of said plurality of panels is associated with said selected file.

Claim 18 has been amended as follows:

18. The tool of claim 4 wherein said ~~graphical representation~~ icon of said tool further comprises a separate horizontal toolbar that duplicates the functionality of said icon.

Claim 21 has been amended to incorporate claim 23 as follows:

21. A method of interfacing with a computer program that can simultaneously display multiple files on a computer display device, each file appearing in a different panel on said display device, said method comprising the steps of: allowing a user to invoke said tool in association with a selected one of said multiple files using a computer interface device', causing a graphic representation of said tool to appear on said display device responsive to being invoked by said user, said graphic representation comprising an icon having a plurality of segments, each corresponding to an operation that can be performed in connection with said selected file; allowing said user to select one of said plurality of operations using a user interface device; wherein said step of allowing said user to select one of said operations is responsive to said user positioning said : cursor in a position indicative of a particular segment of said ~~graphic representation~~ icon to tentatively select said operation corresponding to said segment and performing a subsequent act to select said operation corresponding to said segment; causing a line to appear on said display device, when said ~~graphic representation~~ icon appears on said display device, said line having a first end point centered on said ~~graphic representation~~ icon and a second endpoint at said cursor; and causing said operation to be performed on said selected file.

Claim 23 has been amended as follows:

23. The method of claim 21 wherein said ~~graphical representation icon~~ comprises an icon comprising said plurality of segments.

Claim 24 has been amended as follows:

24. The method of claim ~~23~~ 21 wherein said icon is circular and said segments comprise arc portions of said circular icon.

Claim 25 has been amended as follows:

25. The method of claim ~~23~~ 21 further comprising the steps of: causing said ~~graphical representation icon~~ icon to appear in said panel associated with said selected file.

Claim 26 has been amended as follows:

26. The method of claim ~~23~~ 21 wherein said step of allowing a user to invoke said tool in association with said selected file associates said tool with said file displayed in said panel within which said cursor was positioned when said tool was invoked, and wherein said method further comprises the step of: allowing said user to move said ~~graphical representation icon~~ icon outside of said panel associated with said selected file without switching said selected file.

Claim 33 has been amended as follows:

33. The method of claim ~~23~~ 21 wherein said icon further comprises a portion that indicates which of said plurality of panels is associated with said selected file.

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Claim 37 has been amended as follows:

37. The method of claim 24 wherein said ~~graphical representation~~ icon of said tool further comprises a separate horizontal toolbar that duplicates the functionality of said icon.

***Inquires***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lê Nguyen whose telephone number is **(571) 272-4068**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (571) 272-4063.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 872-9306 [Official Communication]

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

LVN  
Patent Examiner  
October 28, 2005